Handloom Export

1848. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI RADHAKISHAN MALAVIYA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the handloom exports have been 41 percent more in the year 1991-92 compared to last year exports;

(b) whether it is also a fact that at present there is recession in the World market as far as trade of handloom and garments are concerned; and

(c) whether Government propose to announce concessions exclusively for the exporters of the handloom goods enabling them to compete in the world market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) The exports of cotton handloom fabrics and made-ups have increased from Rs. 407 crores in 1990-91 to Rs. 692 Crores in 1991-92, recording a growth of almost 70 per cent. The above figures indicate that the recession in overseas markets has not effected our handloom exports.

(c) Government have been taking a number of steps for boosting handloom exports like sponsoring Sales-cum-Study Teams, participation in fairs in major markets, releasing advertisements in foreign trade magazines and grant of duty drawback. Apart from the above, the handloom exports enjoy certain special concessions such a quota reservation under the Non-Quota Exporters Entitlement System, tripple weightage for the purpose of eligibility for Export House recognition etc.

Recruitment by BICL despite financial constraints

1849. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the BICL has been recruiting large number of officers, staff and other category of employees despite financial constraints;

(b) the details of employees staff and officer recruited by the BICL, its subsidiary companies or associate sugar and engineering companies during the past one year alongwith the salary and allowances of each such new recruits;

(c) whether the management is also failing to achieve higher production in any of its units;

(d) whether the Government is still declining to change the management of BICL immediately; and

(e) if so, the facts and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The British India Corpn. Ltd. has been recruiting staff only on the basis of actual needs. However, a complete ban has been imposed on further recruitments.

(b) A statement is attached. (*See* below).

(c) to (e) The BICL has been afflicted by severe working capital constraints, obsolete plant and machinery, non-availability of essential raw material heavy interest burden, high cost of production etc. The BICL has prepared a strategy to revitalise the mills which involves modernisation, labour rationalisation, financial restructuring etc.